

# ***RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM***

## ***FACT SHEET***

**PURPOSE OF FUNDING:** To provide financial assistance for developing and maintaining trails and trail facilities. Trails can be for non-motorized, multi-use and motorized purposes.

**PERMISSABLE USES AND PROJECTS:** Maintenance and restoration of existing trails; development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages for trails (e.g., parking, signage, shelters, sanitary facilities); purchase and lease of trail construction and maintenance equipment; construction of new trails in existing parks or in new right of way; for motorized use only, acquisition of easement and fee simple title to property for trails.

**NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING:** Land condemnation; trail feasibility studies; law enforcement activities and personnel; road and sidewalk repairs; purchase of promotional materials (e.g., caps, t-shirts, pins); projects on land with railroad tracks; conversion of nonmotorized trails to motorized use.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Projects are funded on an 80% federal share and 20% matching share basis. In 2006, approximately \$900,000 will be available for projects. At the federal level the program is administered by the Federal Highway Administration.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE:** Governmental and non-profit agency landowners.

**QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION:** Land on which trail facility is to be funded must be public land or private land with an easement for public recreational use.

**GRANT LIMITATIONS:** Maximum grant award is \$25,000 for non-motorized projects.

**TIME TO COMPLETE PROJECT:** Three years after notification of award.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** A printed application plus one copy must be filled out and mailed to the program coordinator by the deadline.

**FACTORS USED TO EVALUATE APPLICATIONS:** Trail is in the NJ Trails Plan; longer trails or connector trails are desired; trail connects population or recreational centers; proposal is innovative; proposal provides disabled access; trail provides for more than one activity; project will restore trail; project is a partnership; proposal is critical for erosion control, enhancement of natural features; compatibility with landscape; and scenic location. Negative factor if application is incomplete or received negative determinations for impacts on cultural or natural features.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Applications are sent out in September, with a mid-December deadline. You may also download an application: [www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/natural/njtrails.html](http://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/natural/njtrails.html).

**NOTIFICATION DATE:** August-September of the following year.

**FOR INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION, CONTACT:**

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